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BRAZIL SAYS AMAZON PACT TALKS SCHEDULED FOR 27 MARCH

FY230345Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0013 GMT 23 Mar 78 FY

[Excerpt] Brasilia, 22 Mar--The Brazilian Foreign Ministry issued a communique today announcing that the second meeting aimed at the creation of an Amazon pact with the participation of eight South American countries will be held in Brasilia on 27 March.

According to Itamaraty spokesman Luis Felipe Lampreia, Foreign Minister Azeredo da Silveira had expressed optimism over the acceptance of the idea of institutionalizing a multilateral cooperation system among Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Equador, Guyana, Peru, Surinam and Venezuela.

BANZER ADDRESSES DAY OF SEA CEREMONY

PY231958Y La Paz Domestic Service in Spanish 1510 GMT 23 Mar 78 PY

[Speech by Bolivian President Hugo Banzer Suarez during "Day of Sea" ceremony in Plaza Avarda in La Paz, commemorating the death of Eduardo Avarda in the battle of Topater Bridge against the Chileans in 1879--live]

[Text] Bolivian brothers:

[sentence indistinct] The heroic example of those who prefer to give their lives rather than to fail in doing their duty is given by those who, despite being momentarily weak in the face of force, overcome their weakness, moved by love of the fatherland. The sacrifice for high ideals in the holocaust is the means by which peoples and men reassert their historic personality and become the masters of their own destinies. The vital lesson learned by successive generations is to struggle fearlessly for causes which cannot be abandoned.

The figure of Eduardo Avaroa emerges with that historic dimension. It points out a line of conduct and impels us to follow the broad road of freedom, independence, unity and sacrifice. In the context of our history, Eduardo Avaroa's figure becomes extremely meaningful. He was the man who, impelled by the highest feelings of love of country, decided not to withdraw a single step before the invader and made the calm and conscientious decision to sacrifice his life as a glorious fulfillment of his destiny. Eduardo Avaroa was the finest example of highmindedness. Latin America finds in him the most perfect fulfillment of its history. Fate, which leaves its marks on nations, has consented to leave us a heritage of events painful and bloody, anguishing and terrifying, but also admirable and marvelous, and they are now the historical background determining the supreme promise of future generations, the faith and confidence of recovering their mutilated inheritance, the deep conviction of inheriting a high cause: that of leading Bolivia back to the Pacific Ocean, from which it was separated as a consequence of the aggressor's greed.

On this day, dedicated to Avaroa's memory, the armed forces government appeals to the patriotism of all Bolivians, asking them to meditate deep in their consciences, which cannot be betrayed on the meaning of this day on which we reflect on the past. And it asks our youth to avoid the circumstances which weakened the vitality of the nation at an unfortunate time. Only thus will they be able to meet the challenges of the daily struggle for Bolivia's improvement, a peaceful but no less heroic struggle, because it will let us overcome underdevelopment and advance toward the goals which will make Bolivia strong and respected, worthy and great, master of its fate and capable of placing the weight of its power in the balance of the final decisions. In that way will be created the power which will lead us toward the desired goal.

On 23 March 1977 I promised that we would raise with honor the banners which Eduardo Avaroa left standing on the Bolivian coast, so that the unity of our people would be strengthened under that symbol and the events never be repeated which led to the loss of our outlet to the Pacific Ocean. Thus, on 17 March, at the beginning of the Week of the Sea, we decided to sever diplomatic relations with the Chilean Government. There are vital problems facing some peoples, and in search of their solution it is necessary to explore every road, to try all alternatives and exhaust all means. That is a commitment which is not shirked by rulers who do not seek easy success, short-lived applause or the comfortable position of avoiding the risks of difficult negotiations.

I maintain, with the firmness which comes from my deep conviction, that service in the great causes of the country should not be restrained by fear that the results may be uncertain. A position of resignation and passivity in the face of great challenges posed by historic events is a cowardice which cannot be justified. [passage indistinct]

Last year, on this same solemn date beside the remains of Avarda, I warned that we did not believe that the road could be smoothed by remaining in rigid or unfair positions, or by inserting conditions which do not serve the true purposes of an agreement. The difficulties and lack of understanding were leading to a loss of faith in the American ability [passage indistinct]

Our sincere purpose of finding a solution to Bolivia's major problem led us to resume dialog. We resumed our relations [with Chile] for that patriotic purpose. Since Chile ignored the historic objective we had assigned to our resumption of relations, it was proper to sever our relations to disclose to the world another aggression, this one against our good faith, which must be the basis of constructive relations among states. Throughout its history, Bolivia has based its actions on good faith. Bolivia has never carried out any unexpected aggression, in any of its forms, on other countries. This idea is unthinkable for us. Respect for all peoples and their aspirations, compliance with our commitments and full reciprocity have characterized Bolivian foreign policy. We have always considered as binding the word or commitment made by others to Bolivia. [passage indistinct]

In this interdependent international society in which we are living, it is necessary to take into account the interests of all members of the community within a framework of true equality. Bolivia has never thought exclusively of its demand for a sea outlet--even though it would have been proper to do so based on historical reasons--but rather it proposed a formula which was a true alternative for the purpose of achieving peace, development and integration. [passage indistinct]

This feeling has been distorted through aggression against our good faith. It is good faith which gives credibility to relations between men and peoples. Let no one say now that Bolivia is disrupting peace in America. We have never sought to obtain foreign land. [passage indistinct] We consider that the violation of the Bolivian right to a sea outlet is a violation of the Bolivian people's right to survival. [passage indistinct]

Brother Bolivians, our efforts have not been useless. We raised our voice in every corner of the earth to defend Bolivia's legitimate rights, to end the injustice we have been enduring for 99 years, and our voice calling for a sea outlet has been heard by all just men in America and the world. One day, which we believe will come soon, we will meet our goal of recovering our maritime sovereignty. I promise you, Bolivians, that that day will come because I am aware of your dedicated effort to overcome difficulties and because injustice cannot prevail forever. Thank you.

TROOPS RAISE FLAGS AT FIVE POINTS ALONG BORDER

PY232009Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1851 GMT 23 Mar 78 PY

[Text] La Paz, 23 Mar--The Bolivian military headquarters reported here today that five military columns have raised the Bolivian flag on the border with Chile. The official report says that the points chosen were Charana Colcha, Tambo Quemado, San Pablo de Lipez and Salinas de Garcia Mendoza. Subsonic planes of the Bolivian Air Force made flights at points near the Chilean border.

GOVERNMENT WILL NOT ATTEND TALKS WITH CHILE, PERU

PY230305Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 22 Mar 78 PY

[Text] Bolivian Army chief of staff [presumably acting] Gen (Victor Vestales) stated today that Bolivia will not participate in the tripartite military meeting which was to be held in Lima in April. The agenda of the meeting, which was supposed to be attended by Bolivian, Chilean and Peruvian armed forces commanders, included Bolivia's maritime problem. It is worth recalling that a similar meeting which was held in Santa Cruz last year closed without any significant progress, according to some statements made at that time.

The coming meeting in Lima was announced in Arica yesterday by the Peruvian Army commander in chief, and when Bolivian newsmen went today to ask military sources about it, they were told that Bolivia would not have a representative at the Lima meeting.

MINEWORKERS SEE BREAK WITH CHILE AS FAILURE FOR BANZER

PY230342Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 22 Mar 78 PY

[Text] The Mineworkers Federation of Bolivia [FSTMB] believes that the severance of relations with Chile is proof that General Gugo Banzer's foreign policy has failed. In a communique released today, the FSTMB indicates that the government carried out the negotiations without asking for or taking into account the opinion of the citizenry and that it had merely presented to the people the accomplished fact. The communique adds that there is no denying that, from the historical viewpoint, another frustration has been added to those the country has already experienced and that the people are well aware of the results. The miners state that Chile's offer of a territorial exchange was nothing but a trick to obtain a way out of the international isolation which it was experiencing. The communique indicates that Bolivian people of all social classes staunchly oppose this new attempt at territorial mutilation, the confirmation of the right of conquest which Chile demanded and the final relinquishing of the right to a maritime coast which all Bolivians have sought for almost a century.

COMMENTATOR SAYS BOLIVIANS WILL BE CONQUERORS

PY230156Y Sucre Radio La Plata in Spanish 1630 GMT 23 Mar 78 PY

[Jorge Revilla commentary]

[Text] Many times because of special circumstances the necessary restraint and quality required in press reports are no longer valid. Certain events reach such a point of rudeness that the reporter has no choice other than to use the same terms used by criminals. We are now facing this harsh reality. We have recently heard broadcasts from the criminal radios of the Americas, Chilean radios, which instead of facing up to the shame of the Mapocho River battle and its affront not only to Bolivia but to American fraternity, sneered and ridiculed the current just Bolivian position.

Our answer to those who based their right to territory on force is one of profound contempt. This morning a Chilean reporter said, when referring to our seacoast, that Chileans have the right of the conqueror. That is fine, but the day will come when Bolivia will also have the right of the conqueror, when not only our seacoast but other territories of that disgraceful country will fall under our control.

Chile has always been the continental criminal and there is no choice other than to treat it like a criminal. Currently, Chile also has problems with Peru. Peruvians are determined not to wait for the 100th anniversary of the [words indistinct] to recover those territories which belonged to Peru. Chile also currently has problems with Argentina. Chileans want to be the only country with coasts on both the Pacific and Atlantic oceans. The conflict with Argentina is over the Beagle Channel.

Chile has and will always have problems with Bolivia because of its debt from the 1879 war, and because of that abuse it has a guilty conscience. Chile knows that it committed a crime and that sooner or later it will have to pay for having disturbed peace in the continent. Because of this reality Chileans do not sleep well. They know that the hour of truth and the time for accounting for their deeds will come. Chileans should always keep in mind that debts are always paid and that justice sometimes is late in arriving, but it does arrive. [Words indistinct] confront an entire army fewer than 100 Bolivians at the Topater Bridge. The time will come when thousands of Bolivians like Eduardo Avaroa will be able to set the Bolivian flag in the same place where Chileans took our land.

Dear listeners, please forgive me for the tone of this commentary, but the insolence of the Chilean stations forces us to speak like this. Chileans call themselves the champions of diplomacy. They should call themselves the champions of falsehood and deceit. The embrace of Charana was once again converted by Chileans into a Judas kiss.

Although it is true that other countries took advantage of Bolivian poverty to take parts of our territory, no country has done more damage to us than Chile. This country choked us and is choking us by denying us an outlet to the sea. Now our request is becoming a demand. The day will come when we will return to the sea by reason or by force and we will throw the Chileans into the sea. Good manners and diplomacy are justified when they are used with people who deserve to be well treated. But when dialog is carried on with criminals, there is no alternative other than to use force to answer the 1879 offense.

We have to teach our children--God forgive us for this--to hate Chileans, to hate the country with a government which at one time said: There is no reason for Bolivia to exist as a nation or as a republic. The logical and natural thing is to distribute its territory among neighboring countries. This historic offense now has an answer. Chile is the country which has no reason to exist in the Americas [words indistinct]. The time may come when [words indistinct] Argentina, Peru and Bolivia may decide to do away with this sinister country. To cut out the tumor is a natural remedy.

If Chileans are now listening to us, which is quite possible, we say to them that the Bolivian situation has changed. No more of this one immortal hero Avaroa facing the invader. No more of [words indistinct] Bolivians trembling in view of the Chilean invaders. Nowadays, every Bolivian has the courage of Eduardo Avaroa and the courage shown by Bolivia when it deals with getting an outlet to the sea.

This is also the approriate time to remind the U.S. Government, the United Nations and the entire world of the following: Everyone is demanding that Israel return to the Arabs their territory occupied by force during the war. It is said that this is the only way to guarantee peace in the Middle East. Why is not the same measure applied to the Chilean-Bolivian case?

Why is not the Chilean invader forced to return the Bolivian territory occupied by force as the only way to guarantee peace in Latin America? Is there any difference between the two cases? Is it that world diplomacy is based on discrimination and support for the country which has the most power? There is only one road left. We must unite more than ever before in our history. We must strengthen our position on all fronts. We must work as never before [words indistinct] in order to step on the invader and return not only to the Bolivian seacoast but to Chilean territory itself.

GOVERNMENT COMMUNIQUE ATTACKS POLITICIANS' 'IRRESPONSIBILITY'

PY222145Y La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 19 Mar 78 p 25 PY

[Text of armed forces government proclamation to Bolivian people issued on 18 March 1978 in La Paz]

[Text] In view of the growing irresponsibility pervading the public statements of some politicians who want to gain notoriety by resorting to scandals and provocations, the government of the armed forces makes public the following explanation to prevent public opinion from being confused by misguided judgments or distortion of facts which, by dint of repetition, are beginning to appear like the truth:

1. As has been demonstrated on several occasions, the nation's armed forces took over the responsibilities of government at a time when interests foreign to the country threatened to weaken its principal structures, in other words, at a time when the country was in danger. Taking advantage of the democratic opening and resorting to all means at hand, those interests are once again dedicated to destroying the social and economic gains achieved during recent years and to undermine the faith and security of the population.

2. The institution charged with the fatherland's protection has fulfilled its duty. The first stage of its government tenure was devoted to reestablishing the country's stability, order and confidence; the second stage was marked by comprehensive development unprecedented in the country; and the third stage is taking place with the institutionalization process now under way.

3. The irrational factions both from the extreme right and the extreme left have launched a vast campaign aimed at preventing the upcoming elections. It can be seen that, during the time remaining until 9 July--the elections date--those factions will try to instigate social tension and conflicts of all sorts. The people should know who is to blame for this situation. They stand to gain by knowing who it is at this time.

4. The main tactic used by the groups who are opposed to the country's institutional improvement is to stir up confusion within the country's main institutions. The extremists' No 1 objective is to weaken the armed forces, because they know that by dividing the armed forces the country is weakened and that they can carry out their plans.

Concerning this, we should warn that the armed forces know perfectly well the role they must play in the affairs of the nation and that they are sufficiently mature to reject any attempt not in keeping with their convictions.

5. Since Gen Hugo Banzer Suarez is the leader of the system now in force--the man who guarantees stability, peace and progress--the tactic of the extremists consists of systematically detracting from him.

The antinational factions believe that, once the leader of the Bolivian revolution is defeated, the domino principle will begin to work. They say that to topple a building, one needs only to pull away its main pillar.

In theory the tactic chosen by the extremists seems to make sense, but in practice they will discover that General Banzer is endowed with an extraordinary civic and moral strength, precisely the reason he enjoys the support and affection of the people.

6. It also becomes necessary that the people be aware of the existence of some persons who, wittingly or unwittingly--even belonging to the extreme right as is the case of Dr Siles Salinas--have been moved by their own frustration and resentment to act as instruments of the antinational and antidemocratic campaign. The community should view these individual deviations for what they are.

7. Finally, the government of the armed forces asks the people to react calmly to the provocations and insults both from the extremists and from persons embittered by failure. 18 March 1978 [signed] General Information Secretariat

PAZ ESTENSSORO DISAVOWS MNR SUPPORT FOR PEREDA

PY221939Y La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 18 Mar 78 p 12 PY

[Excerpt] Victor Paz Estenssoro, head of the National Revolutionary Movement [MNR], has repudiated and condemned the action of a group of MNR members who, under the MNR's name, are cooperating and supporting Juan Pereda's nomination. This is the first time since the electoral campaign started that Paz Estenssoro has revealed his thinking and made the position of his party clear. Paz Estenssoro sent Loenidas Sanchez, executive secretary of the MNR National Political Committee, a telegram from Albuquerque, California [as published], where he is a professor at a university.

The message stated: "I will appreciate your making public my repudiation and condemnation of the absurd maneuver of collaborating groups which try to use my name in fake meetings and conventions, making me appear as their head for life, in order to create confusion within the MNR, on behalf of the government candidate. The disagreement between the MNR and the government was issued in 1973 and reasserted from exile, particularly regarding Bolivian social policy and unfavorable international negotiations. Under its popular nationalistic principle, the MNR opposes the continuation of these policies proposed by the government with its official candidate and the armed forces command. Sincerely, [signed] Victor Paz Estenssoro, MNR national head"

GOVERNMENT WILL ATTEND JAKARTA TIN PRODUCERS MEETING

PY232201Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2018 GMT 22 Mar 78 PY

[Text] La Paz, 22 Mar--It was officially reported here today that Bolivia will be present at the international meeting of tin producers to be held in Jakarta (Indonesia) within the next few days. The report indicated that Bolivia, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and other producer nations will be at the meeting which intends to "study the possibility of a common front of producer nations in view of the U.S. announcement that it will place 50,000 long tons of tin on the market. Jaime Quiroga, Bolivian charge d'affaires in Malaysia, will lead the delegation, the report added. "The date has not been set, but the meeting will be held during the first days of April," the report concluded.

O GLOBO DISCOUNTS U.S. PRESIDENT'S INFLUENCE

PY231606Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 22 Mar 78 p 1 PY

[Editorial: "Waiting for Carter"]

[Text] Only those who are unaware of the real mechanisms governing international relations could believe that President Carter's visit will condition events and will change the course of Brazilian political life or that decisions are made in Brasilia using President Carter's ideas as a basic point of reference.

The idea of personally interfering in Brazilian affairs must have never occurred to the U.S. President. This idea unfortunately originated here, in Brazil, and has taken a variety of forms and degrees depending on the feeling of inferiority of those who have expressed it. Those who tend to exaggerate imagine that President Carter will make the sun shine only on Brazil and that he will leave his formula here for institutional enlightenment. In this regard those sectors hypersensitive to democracy fear that the visitor may gather an unfavorable impression of our daily political life, as if the prospects or the timetable of the country's redemocratization depended on Jimmy Carter's approval or disapproval.

In fact, there is an abyss between viewing the U.S. President's visit with satisfaction--in view of its practical significance and the prestige stemming from it--and granting the visitor the "status" of arbiter of the recovering national democracy.

The essence of the visit must be viewed within the framework of the "matured and correct relations" Brazil currently maintains with Washington--quoting Foreign Minister Azaredo da Silveira--in which "there are far more points of agreement than of disagreement." The matured level of our bilateral relations has been instrumental in excluding every idea of Brasilia's automatic alinement with Washington, except for issues which by their nature are related to the major guidelines governing Western solidarity. Therefore, it is unthinkable to consider Brazil a submissive partner, either regarding the treatment of our domestic affairs or regarding the possibilities open to Brazil on the international scene.

Both of these submissive positions reflect the ideas of others and these resentful or biased attitudes should be equally rejected. Both positions bear the marks of political and cultural underdevelopment.

It would be natural for President Carter to bring to Brazil his ideas, including those concerning human rights, just as he is fully entitled to state here his reasons for opposing the proliferation of nuclear weapons. What would not be natural is to admit that he can bring impositions instead of ideas or proposals for negotiations. The mature, correct relations prevailing between the two American countries on the eve of Carter's visit will continue and will remain at the same level after his departure.

ARCHBISHOP DOUBTS CARTER'S SINCERITY ON HUMAN RIGHTS

PY230027Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2230 GMT 23 Mar 78 PY

[Text] Recife, Brazil, 23 Mar--The archbishop of Olinda and Recife, Msgr Helder Camara, today criticized the foreign policy of U.S. President Jimmy Carter. The archbishop, who is considered to be a militant of the progressive sector of the Brazilian episcopate, formulated the criticism in an official communique released here in which he comments on the official visit which the U.S. chief of state will make to Brazil between 29 and 31 March.

According to Monsignor Camara, the President, who "assumed world leadership in the fight for human rights," must remember that the doctrine of national security adopted by the Latin American countries, in which these rights are violated, "was drafted in the United States by the National War College." The archbishop also indicated that the people of the United States must also ask Carter "where and with whom did Latin American civilians and military personnel learn the most advanced methods of torture." Concluding, he indicated that "there can be no moral intent to fight the horrible and intolerable kidnapings carried out by the left and the right until the actions of the CIA in Latin America are examined."

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL CONDEMNS CURITIBA ARRESTS

PY2321547 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0200 GMT 23 Mar 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 22 Mar--Patricia Feeney, delegated by Amnesty International to visit Brazil, has stated that the imprisonment of 11 intellectuals in Curitiba is an attack against the Human Rights Declaration. The remark by the special envoy of the international organization was made to the press in Curitiba after having failed in her attempt to visit the 11 people who have been detained, according to press reports which have reached here. The British official of Amnesty International has been in Brazil for a week seeking information concerning human rights in this country in order to submit a report to the organization which she represents.

According to press reports, Feeny visited Curitiba yesterday in order to visit 11 intellectuals who have been detained incommunicado, accused of instilling Marxist ideology in children of between 6 and 13 years in two schools in Curitiba. Nevertheless, Police Superintendent Joao Reinaldo Vilaca denied her the necessary authorization indicating that the detained persons will be incommunicado for 10 days in accordance with the National Security Law.

The detention of the 11 people has provoked energetic reactions from church and professional organizations and from representatives of the MDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement], the opposition in Brazil.

TWO OF NINE JAILED IN CURITIBA RELEASED

PY2402187 Paris AFP in Spanish 1715 GMT 23 Mar 78 PY

[Text] Curitiba, Brazil, 23 Mar--It was disclosed here that sociologist Ana Lange and Professor Leo Kesser, who were arrested last week with another nine Brazilians charged with "subversive activities," were released today. According to those released today, some of the other detainees presumably will be released in the near future but others will remain in prison for "an unspecified time." The detainees were accused mainly of teaching Marxism in two primary schools. A reporter, author of an interview with Lt Col Tarcisio Nunez Ferreira--also under arrest, is among those who were arrested. During the interview Nunez Ferreira requested the observance of the rule of law in Brazil and denounced the government as arbitrary. The unions, opposition and the Brazilian Church reacted to the government's action and Archbishop of Curitiba Pedro Fedalto asserted that the teaching of Marxism is necessary so that students may be exposed to various ideologies.

GOVERNMENT TO INVESTIGATE STATE FIRMS BRIBERY CHARGE

FY232236Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1612 GMT 23 Mar 78 FY

[Text] Brasilia, 23 Mar--The federal police have decided to open an investigation concerning the charges made by an industrialist who asserted that 80 percent of the Brazilian state enterprises have received kickbacks and bribes. During a conference on Monday at the Porto Alegre Catholic University, Kurt Mirow, industrialist and writer, also charged that the enterprises which demanded kickbacks and bribes in return for purchases and tenders specified that the payment had to be made in Swiss francs or Deutsche marks and deposited in Swiss banks. In an official note which was released today, the federal police announced their decision to investigate the industrialists's charges. A book published recently by Mirow, entitled: "The Dictatorship of the Cartels," which denounced various actions of administrative corruption, was censored.

FOREIGN BANKS OFFER FUNDS FOR ITAIPU EQUIPMENT

FY230338Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 22 Mar 78 p 29 FY

[Excerpts] Brasilia--Gen Jose Costa Cavalcante, president of the Itaipu Binational Enterprise, reported yesterday that several foreign banks--among which are Swiss, Canadian, German and U.S.--are interested in financing the purchase of electromechanical equipment (turbines and generators) for the Itaipu hydroelectric plant. He added that these banks made good proposals.

Costa Cavalcante met the day before yesterday and yesterday with Mines and Energy Minister Shigeaki Ueki to discuss Itaipu's financial planning. After yesterday's meeting, Costa Cavalcante reported that the Itaipu Binational Enterprise will negotiate, through the Brazilian Power Companies Inc [ELETROBRAS], a $175 million loan to complete this year's financial budget, which will be on the order of $700 or $800 million. This loan is now being negotiated with a consortium of foreign banks led by the U.S. Citicorp International and Morgan Banks and the German Deutsche Bank.

BRIEFS

GENERALS ON RESERVE STATUS--A decree signed by President Geisel has placed the following brigadier generals on a reserve status: Jose Alberto Pinheiro da Silva, Ferdinando de Carvalho, Ruy Leal Campelo, Gentil Nogueira Paes, Celso Dos Santos Meyer, Silvio Octavio do Espirito Santo, Gilberto Costa Pereira and Murilo Rodrigues de Souza. [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 15 Mar 76 p 6 FY]

NEW EMFA DEPUTY CHIEF--Brig Gen Luiz Jose Torres Marques has been appointed deputy chief of the Armed Forces General Staff [EMFA], replacing Brig Gen Mario de Mello Mattos. [Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 16 Mar 78 p 2 FY]

TUBARAO STEEL PROJECT--Brasilia--After 2 days of meetings in Brasilia, representatives of the Brazilian Steel and Iron Corp [SIDEBRAS], Kawasaki Steel and FINSIDER finally reached an agreement regarding the Tubarao steel project. Kawasaki Steel will give SIDEBRAS every type of support in obtaining the $700 million which is needed for building the complex. The foreign partners have agreed to absorb 50 percent of the production for a 2-year period. It has been agreed that the first unit of the complex will begin production on 1 August 1982. The contracts for the purchase of equipment will be signed on 31 July 1978. [Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 17 Mar 78 p 22 FY]

PERUVIAN ENVOY DENIES ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE OF BOLIVIAN ACTION

PY231422Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 23 Mar 78 PY

[Text] Jose Carlos Mariategui, Peruvian ambassador to Chile, has categorically denied that his government had advance knowledge of the Bolivian decision to sever diplomatic relations with Chile. Mariategui made this statement after having been received by President Augusto Pinochet, to whom he said goodby upon ending his mission in this country.

"This news is wholly untrue. No Peruvian Government official including the president, had any advance knowledge of the severance of relations," the diplomat stated. Press reports have said that the Peruvian Government had been notified of the Bolivian decision in advance.

When asked about the unilateral decision made by Hugo Banzer's government, Ambassador Mariategui replied: "That is a bilateral matter between Bolivia and Chile."

FOREIGN MINISTRY SAYS TALKS WILL NOT INVOLVE SEA ACCESS

PY220340Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2035 GMT 21 Mar 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile 21 Mar--The Chilean Foreign Ministry has denied reports that the tripartite meeting which Peru, Bolivia and Chile will hold in Lima next month will deal with matters related to Bolivia's landlocked situation.

Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Gen Enrique Valdez Puga indicated that tripartite meetings of military commanders "generally deal with military subjects." He added that "any subject related to the diplomatic field must necessarily be studied by the Foreign Ministry."

Defense Minister Gen Hermann Brady, who returned to Santiago last night after a weekend meeting in Arica with Peruvian Prime Minister and War Minister Gen Oscar Molina, confirmed the tripartite meeting.

"If Bolivia attends this meeting, fine. If it does not, we will go ahead anyway because we believe that dialog and exchange of information, which Chile and Peru have maintained for many years, must continue," Brady stated.

Bolivia's attendance at the Lima meeting became doubtful after the La Paz government severed diplomatic relations with Chile last week on the grounds that the negotiations for a sea outlet had failed.

Under Secretary Valdez Puga stated that the Chilean Foreign Ministry had neither received nor issued instructions to discuss matters related to a sea outlet for Bolivia.

CRIMINAL COURT CONTINUES LETELIER CASE

PY231358Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 23 Mar 78 PY

[Text] The two persons who appear to be involved in the Orlando Letelier case will be heard in the Santiago criminal court this morning.

This information was given by Judge Juana Gonzalez of that court, who has been entrusted with the request made by the District of Columbia, United States.

During a talk with newsmen the judge told them that she had already received a reply from the Interior Ministry giving the true identity of the persons known as Juan Williams Rose and Alejandro Romeral Jara. The judge refused, however, to give the names of the two persons and only stated that she had sent a new letter to the Interior Ministry, asking for the identity of the persons named in the earlier reply of the Interior Ministry.

Juana Gonzalez refused to give any more details and only stated that she would not declare herself incompetent, since according to a decree-law of 1975 it is the duty of her court to deal with foreign requests.

According to the judge's statement, the U.S. request will be dealt with today. As is known, the request contains about 30 questions regarding alleged participation by the two persons named above in the murder of former diplomat Orlando Letelier and his secretary.

Sources at the Second Military Court have stated that military judge Gen Enrique Morel Donoso is already in possession of the documents sent by Judge Marcos Libedinsky, who has declared himself incompetent to handle the case, giving the reason that those allegedly involved in this were of military status.

In the course of the next few hours the military court will thoroughly investigate the issuance of the passports.

LEIGH DECORATES SOUTH AFRICAN AIR FORCE CHIEF

PY2102417 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2140 GMT 20 Mar 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 20 Mar--Commander in Chief of the South African Air Force Gen Robert D. Rogers indicated today that his country can learn a lot from Chilean experience in fighting international communism. The high-ranking military officer, who is here to attend ceremonies tomorrow of the 48th anniversary of the Chilean Air Force, was decorated by air force chief and member of the government junta Gen Gustavo Leigh with the Grand Star for Military Merit.

During the ceremony, held at noon today at the Chilean Air Force Club, Leigh gave him the decoration "with the testimony of understanding, unity and cooperation between our institutions."

Expressing his tanks for the decoration, Rogers indicated that "Chile and South Africa are facing the same problem, the attacks of international communism. You obtained a great triumph over it and we can learn a lot from your experience because we are determined to avoid the penetration of communism," he added.

He then indicated that "at this critical period throughout the world we are lacking leadership and friends. This is why it is necessary that small countries such as ours should unite to combat communism. This decoration is another link for even closer relations between the two countries," he concluded.

LOPEZ MICHELSEN DENIES MILITARY COUP ATTEMPT

PA231520Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2325 GMT 23 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 22 Mar (AFP)--Colombian President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen has denied in a Lima magazine that his country's armed forces had tried to stage a coup against him and stressed that institution's respect for the constitution.

In an exclusive interview granted to journalist Peter Cannock of the biweekly CARETAS and published in the magazine's latest edition, the president said that the reports on a coup were not only false, "but things have been quite the opposite."

He explained that as in many other institutions "there have been internal rivalries" within his country's armed forces and that he has had to serve as arbiter. "In arbitrating these rivalries," he said, "I have had to decide in favor of one group or another."

"These officers have not conspired against the president; rather, they have given him their support as constitutional head of the armed forces in charge of resolving those differences," the president emphasized.

Asked if there had been any problems between him and General Matallana, his country's secret service chief, President Lopez answered: That officer is one "person in whom I have full confidence" and "it is not true that I have had any problems with him."

The president added that the general had retired because according to Colombia's military regulations, there can be only five generals wearing three suns. The three-sun general is the highest rank; therefore, when a selection was made to decide who would retire to open the way for new promotions, Matallana was among those selected for retirement.

Lopez Michelsen affirmed that in his country "the armed forces are bound to the constitution," and added that "the only coup we have had was that of Rojas Pinilla--and he was deposed by a military junta which called an election the following year."

Regarding strong governments, Lopez Michelsen said that "a government is strong if it has strength. If not, it is forced by its weakness to boast of its strength." Concluding, he said that "dictatorships generally conceal great weaknesses."

EL ESPECTADOR OPPOSES TURBAY AYALA CANDIDACY

PA232259Y Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 19 Mar 78 p 2-A PA

[Editorial: "The Blank Vote"]

[Excerpts] As was predicted and decided, the Liberal convention acclaimed Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala as the party's official candidate for the presidency for the next period. It was the formalization of his unquestionable electoral victory over his opponents in the 26 February elections. This fact, however, cannot lead us to change our minds concerning the significance of this candidacy. When we calmly explained the reasons why Turbay has not been, is not and will not be our candidate, we meant it seriously. With the same seriousness we have decided to cast a blank vote in the presidential elections.

Let it not be said that we are denying the Liberals some service we should offer them. We do not feel that we are a part of the Liberal "machinery," nor do we have anything to do with the party's leadership. Others--the same persons who usually dismiss the orientation service which the press can provide--are in charge of obtaining for their candidate, now the official candidate, the votes he needs to win. Our role is best performed by expressing opinions without having our thoughts subordinated to the comings and goings of politics, state or party reasons, conveniences and tactical monetary gambits.

Without any personal antipathy toward Turbay and, rather, with the warm sympathy we feel toward him for several of his previous stands, we stated months ago the reasons why we feel his candidacy is inadvisable. These reasons have not been altered even by the large number of votes he obtained over former President Carlos Lleras Restrepo. Turbay's candidacy, in effect, was born in the same cradle as the series of irregularities and anomalies that were cynically cheered by those in the galleries of Congress the day before yesterday. It was born out of a series of political and administrative vices against which we must wage an all-out struggle. It was born out of a really unbelievable incoherence of principles which is dangerous for the future of a country in need of clear leadership. Turbay is the official Liberal Party candidate according to the terms of the San Carlos consensus, but he is not ours. That is all.

If he is elected president we will neither applaud him nor bother him due to prejudice. Independence, deliberately adopted, is our function, and it is evidenced in the decision we announce today. Let thunder and lightning fall upon us, as usual.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE VALENCIA TOVAR HOLDS NEWS CONFERENCE

PA240051Y Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 21 Mar 78 p 7-A PA

[Article by Sigifredo Eusse]

[Text] Barranquilla, 20 Mar--Gen Alvaro Valencia Tovar said today that "it has never been my intention to create a third party." He added that "the National Renovation Movement is a new alternative we are offering while the traditional parties which were weakened by the National Front overcome their respective crises."

The presidential candidate held a news conference at the Royal Lebolo Hotel before addressing a meeting of economic bodies convened by the Barranquilla chapter of the Colombian Institute of Administration (INCOLDA). At the news conference he stated: "I am neither a Liberal nor a Conservative, and I am not following the path of dictator Gustavo Rojas Pinilla."

The general reaffirmed the "supraparty" character of his candidacy and noted that in placing himself above parties, the only thing he is doing is continuing to uphold the principles he has upheld throughout his 37-year military career.

He declined to comment on his opponents in the presidential elections. He particularly declined to comment on Belisario Bentancur and on Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, "because I have no intention of getting involved in polemics of a personal nature since the debates and the campaign must be based on the programs to be offered to the Colombian people."

Valencia Tovar noted that he chose the struggle in politics as a result of his "republican convictions and because I have always believed that our country is one of liberty."

Valencia stated: "I am not proposing myself as a future candidate but as a future movement. If there were a candidate whom I honestly considered to be better able to solve the present needs of the country than I am, if that candidate comes up, then I would gladly withdraw my candidacy.

Someone asked Valencia Tovar if during his military career he ever considered carrying out drastic solutions through a coup d'etat. The general answered: "I have been a man of principles and not an opportunist. This is why I never thought about carrying out a coup d'etat, and this is why I chose the intricacies of politics."

In addition to the moral crusade which Valencia Tovar is proposing as necessary in order to return to the country its "lost security," the candidate said that if elected "I will reform institutions, education and justice and I will give a huge push to investments, especially in the agroindustrial sector."

He added: "During my political campaign I will only promise things that I will be able to fulfill."

Regarding reforms to the institutions, Valencia said that "it would be very difficult to legislate with the present parliament and the way in which it operates."

If elected, Valencia would hold a **plebiscite** in which he would propose to Colombians what he has called "a chosen parliament and a parliament with morale."

This parliament would have only one chamber that would have no more than 100 representatives, who would be chosen by the people through their votes and who would not have the possibility of being reelected to two consecutive terms in order to avoid the possibility of creating client machineries [maquinarias clientelistas].

The elections system would be changed--the people would vote for individuals instead of for lists. In addition to this, the candidate would modify regional representation in parliament "because right now there are injustices that affect heavily populated regions which should have more representatives in Congress."

Since he did not present his own list of candidates during the recent legislative elections and since "the present parlaiment will not reform itself," Valencia thinks that if he is "elected president, the conflict would surface immediately and the only solution would be to convoke a plebiscite so that the Colombian people could decide what type of parliament they want."

BUSINESSMEN PROTEST LACK OF MARKETING POLICY

PA240419Y Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 20 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Juan Martin Caicedo Ferrer, chairman of the National Federation of Businessmen [FENALCO], denounced the lack of a marketing policy within the economic development plans and the resulting nonexistence of credit facilities for merchants. The FENALCO chairman said that during 1977 the business sector had actively participated in the general economic effort. Caicedo Ferrer also insisted that the 1974 tax reform continued to affect business negatively, especially because of the sales tax and the double tax system. The FENALCO chairman again called on the country's other business sectors to seek a consensus on matters to be presented to the Constituent Assembly and the next administration for their consideration.

GALO PLAZA TURNS DOWN ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL POST

PA231538Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 23 Mar 78 PA

[Excerpts] Galo Plaza Lasso has declined categorically to continue as president of the Electoral Tribunal. In a telegram sent to the president of the Government Council, the former president expressed his irreversible decision to withdraw from the organization in which he was repeatedly asked to stay.

Presidential Spokesman Fabian Carces Cabrera disclosed that very recently, Supreme Council of Government President Rear Adm Alfredo Poveda Burbano sent long letters to all the members of the former Referendum Tribunal asking them to continue in the Electoral Tribunal as a patriotic contribution to the nation. The chief of government's personal letter reached Galo Plaza via a police officer who went to his hacienda in Cayambe. After studying Poveda's request, Galo Plaza resolved to confirm his resignation because he considers that the electoral law's provisions are partial to certain candidates. Previously, Galo Plaza had said that he would not be railroaded or drafted.

In contrast, Juan (Issac) Lovato, who was a member of the Referendum Tribunal representing leftist sectors, has consented to continue serving in the Electoral Tribunal. He explained that he had resigned to make way for other Ecuadorean citizens but that he cannot refuse the repeated requests made by Rear Admiral Poveda and the armed forces.

POPULAR DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT ANNOUNCES CANDIDATES

PA181620Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 18 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Some 3,000 persons who had gathered in the first national convention of the Popular Democratic Movement proclaimed the candidacies of Doctors Camilo Mena Mena and Jaime Hurtado Gonzalez to the presidency and vice presidency of the republic, respectively. Among the delegations which filled the Julio Hidalgo Coliseum were Indians from several provinces, particularly a delegation from Chimorazo which even included a native musical group. The candidacies were proclaimed with the slogans: Mena-Hurtado to the government, the people to power. In his speech, Dr Jaime Hurtado Gonzalez, the vice presidential candidate, said that the convention of the Popular Democratic Movement showed that the people want an end to demagogy.

[begin Hurtado Gonzalez recording] This well-attended meeting is a demonstration of our people's determination to end demagogy in this country for good. It is a demonstration that our people have become aware. It is a demonstration that our people have awakened and have decided to seek their own destiny. These people gathered here have come at the cost of great sacrifice. They have not been paid by anyone. They have not been paid by [word indistinct]. [applause] They have not been paid by the university. They have not been paid by the oil companies. These people are the ones who are going to save Ecuador, and we have already begun to march. [shouts of "Mena-Hurtado to the government, the people to power"--end recording]

Dr Camilo Mena, candidate for the presidency of the republic, expressed thanks for the trust deposited in him and said that his nomination originated in the Indian communities. [begin Mena recording] [words indistinct] Thank you. [applause] Thank you for raising a new banner, this tricolor banner which others have stepped on but which you have raised chaste and pure and which I raise today in order to take it to the national capitol. [applause]

Our candidacies did not originate in carpeted salons, the meeting places of the boards of the transnational companies, the powerful economic groups or the little lords. No. Our candidacies were born of the people when the peasants of (Chimorro), those of (Cantimuevo), those of [words indistinct], those of Esmeraldas, launched the proclamation of hope and placed upon us the immense responsibility of leading the movement that will try to change the structures of our fatherland in the future. [end recording]

After the convention, the Popular Democratic Movement staged a march through the main streets of the downtown area of the city.

PARTIES REACT TO GOVERNMENT MINISTER'S STATEMENT

PA222253Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1950 GMT 22 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Quito, 22 Mar (LATIN)--Various political parties today expressed concern over the statements of Government Minister Col Bolivar Jarrin regarding an eventual interruption of the current process to return Ecuador to a constitutional system. They also harshly rejected criticism made by Supreme Court President Gonzalo Karolys, who recently said that there is "political chaos in the country."

During an event organized by the provincial governors [gobernadores provinciales] in his honor on Monday, Jarrin said that "on our part, and I speak in the name of the government and the armed forces, the process will not undergo any interruption." However, he warned that "if there is an interruption, it will be solely caused by individuals who have not adjusted to historic circumstances."

Through a so-called "plan of legal restructuring of the state," the military triumvirate has scheduled presidential elections for 16 July, which will end 8 years of de facto regimes in Ecuador.

Blasco Penhaherrera, provincial director of the Liberal Party, expressed his concern over Jarrin's statements "because they are somewhat ambiguous and imprecise. Such statements should not come from one who directs politics at this critical time."

Rodrigo Suarez, of the so-called Constitutionalist Front which supports the presidential candidacy of former Quito Mayor Sixto Duran, said that the military government is obliged to turn over power to civilians this year as scheduled. "This commitment cannot be made conditional on the good or bad judgment of the government minister or any one else," he added.

Camilo Mena, presidential candidate of the pro-Peking People's Democratic Movement, said that Jarrin, "regardless of how important he is and how high his position in the armed forces, does not have the moral capacity to make a statement of this nature."

The political parties also rejected the Supreme Court president's statement that there is "political chaos" in Ecuador. The parties have charged that Karolys is in favor of dictatorial governments. "If he wants to fight the political parties and have a political platform, let him leave the Supreme Court and organize his own if he does not like any of the parties," Suarez said.

On previous occasions, the government minister has warned that the culmination of the plan to transfer power to civilians depends on the maintenance of a climate of peace and public tranquillity.

Nevertheless, this is the first time that there has been serious reaction from the political parties, apparently because the date of the presidential election is so near. According to the military triumvirate's program, power is to be transferred to the president-elect at a yet undetermined date this year.

LIBERALS CHOOSE VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

PA231530Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 23 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Blasco Pena Herrera, the president of the Pichincha Liberal Party Board, will be Francisco Huerta Montalvo's running mate in the coming presidential elections. Pena Herrera was officially proposed yesterday afternoon by Huerta Montalvo himself and was accepted by the Pichincha Board.

It had been rumored previously that Pena Herrera would be chosen, but he denied this at noon yesterday. However, during the late afternoon he accepted Huerta Montalvo's proposal.

Pena Herrera was government minister and president of the National Economic Planning and Coordination Board in the last Velasquist regime when the Liberal Party was part of the government. At present, the young Liberal politician is president of the recently organized Pichincha Provincial Board and assistant director of VISTAZO magazine in Quito.

HOY READER QUESTIONS CARTER'S POLICIES

PY171935Y Asuncion HOY in Spanish 17 Mar 78 p 12 PY

[Letter from reader Roger Caballero]

[Excerpt] I fully agree with the HOY editorial of 10 March 1978 entitled "Those Pesky Human Rights." In my modest capacity for understanding, President Carter's strategy regarding human rights is like a Tower of Babel or simply something more commonly described as "do as I say, not as I do." Thinking about the foundations of that policy, we must ask ourselves several questions in an attempt to understand what human rights means according to President Carter.

1. How far do human rights extend when it concerns the U.S. black population, human beings who constitute a subclass within the great American society, which treats blacks with indifference in every state of the union, living as orphans in misery under the Brooklyn Bridge and even in the City of Washington south of 14th Street, under crowded conditions, without receiving any consideration?

2. How far do human rights extend in the U.S. policy toward the Middle East, when it supplies all kind of weapons to massacre innocent people who, incited by international Communism managed from Moscow, are continuously at war and destined by Bolshevism to be submitted to the most criminal outrages?

3. How far does the human rights policy extend with the bearded Fidel Castro, who continues to pile outrages on the helpless people of Jose Marti and, on criminal orders from international communism, to decimate the Somali people in the Horn of Africa, with the complete indifference of Mr Carter? What is being sought by toasting with the Bolshevik chieftain, by turning their backs on the longsuffering Russian people and on the world's free people who for more than 50 years have been enduring the Marxist-Lenninist ideology, the most cruel and bloody ideology known to humankind? Or is some other kind of business involved?

4. How far do human rights extend in the U.S. Congress, loyal representatives of a people who used to be democratic; a Congress which has always maintained the image of being the leading institution of representative democracy and steadfast defender of the Western way of life?

5. Would these gentlemen who represent the American people agree that their nation's flag should be replaced by the hammer and sickle flag, because if they condone Carter's human rights policy, soon we will see waving above the Capitol and the White House the hammer and sickle Bolshevik flag, and will see the massacre of the American people--and consequently the people of the whole world--who will be left exposed to the whims and desires of the Moscow chieftains?

Very well, we must ponder this particular stigma of international communism which will be branded forever on the body and the spirit of mankind. It will be an act of prudence to thoroughly analyze the psychological and political strategy of President Carter's government toward the world's nations which are still free of international communism, which day after day is trampling upon defenseless people who have become resigned to their own fate under the hardhearted indifference of President Carter's government. Also where are the human rights of the U.S. miners who are demanding a better standard of living only to run into a government which seeks a court injuction to force them back to work into the mines below, disregarding the miners just demands for better salary which they believe their hard work deserves.

CHILEAN, PERUVIAN ARMY CHIEFS INTERVIEWED AT BORDER MEETING

PA232035Y Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 20 Mar 78 p 7 PA

[Statements by Peruvian Prime Minister Gen Oscar Molina Pallocchia and Chilean Defense Minister Gen Herman Brady at Peruvian-Chilean border on 19 March--transcribed from ESI-Peru recording]

[Text] [Question] General Molina, what do you think about this meeting?

[General Molina] This reunion with our friend, General Brady, is another demonstration of the policy our countries are following to make the relations between our people more cordial, close and intimate.

This is not our first meeting; we have gotten together on many occasions. This one is only a continuation of the policy our armed forces have been following for a long time.

[Question] What are the purposes of this meeting?

[General Brady] I might add to what General Molina said that these relations have been intensified since General Morales Bermudez in 1974 proposed the holding of tripartite meetings with the officers commanding the units of the Peruvian, Chilean and Bolivian armed forces. This has enable us to know each other better and to talk in a spirit of understanding and friendship. With time, this spirit has increased between the Peruvian, Chilean and Bolivian armed forces.

There has been considerable understanding, and we have come to understand each other rather well. I think that with the passing of time, as we get to know each other better, there is more mutual respect and greater understanding, and I think that a very solid friendship already exists.

[Question] What subjects will be brought up at the meeting?

[General Molina] We are going to discuss ways of improving relations between our armies.

[Question] General, with tne new Bolivian development, will the meeting continue to be tripartite?

[General Molina] I do not know if they will continue to be held. It is a question of waiting.

[Question] General Molina, and at this time?

[General Molina] Well, at this time we are once more showing our constant desire for closer relations among all countries of America in order to serve our highest ideal, which is peace.

With this meeting I am having today with my friend, General Brady, in my position as army commanding general, I want to extend the Peruvian people's most affectionate greeting to the Chilean people and my government's wishes that the government of General Pinochet continue along the path to success.

[Question] General Brady, do you have a greeting for the Peruvian people?

[General Brady] I think I could only repeat what General Molina said because this contact is very agreeable and pleasing to us, and this friendship should exist not merely among members of military institutions but also between the people of both countries. I think that this is being achieved thanks to this communion of ideals or ideas we have as members of the Chilean Armed Forces.

We are convinced that the only way that both nations can progress is in harmony in order to attain the development and welfare of our population. That, I think, is one point of contact in which we have most affinity because of our desire to work together for the development of the region, since the development of the region will benefit both nations.

[Question] What is your opinion as defense minister on the stand taken by Bolivia?

[General Brady] Yesterday I gave my opinion to a Peruvian newsman, but I must say that it is a rather big surprise to me because I do not know the reason for Bolivia's decision. That was Friday afternoon. On Saturday I went to Arica so I have no further information. I imagine that our Foreign Ministry will have more information in this regard.

I will know when I return from this trip. However, I can say we were surprised because we do not think there is any logical reason for a step of that nature to be taken. I can tell you that in regard to another decision, there is a group in Santiago studying the transportation tariff between Chile and Bolivia. An agreement has been reached, and work was being conducted in a very cordial atmosphere. This agreement was signed 1 hour after we received the information that relations had been suspended. Consequently, I feel that our government has taken the situation seriously, with considerable calmness, and is waiting for developments to determine what Bolivia's reasons were. Thank you very much.

[Question] Can you summarize briefly the significance of this meeting with General Brady?

[General Molina] Well, this is just another step toward closer relations between our people and our institutions.

RAILROAD WORKERS UNION ENDS 15-DAY STRIKE

PA2402547 Paris AFP in Spanish 2322 GMT 23 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 23 Mar (AFP)--A 15-day strike that practically paralyzed Peruvian railroads ended today when an agreement was reached between the union and the Transportation and Communications Ministry. Official sources said that the 17,000 railroad workers returned to work immediately. The terms of the agreement have not been revealed, but the government railroad workers had previously rejected a 1,500-sole ($11.30) monthly increase. Railroad services between Lima, the central Andean region, the Pacific coast, the southeastern part of the country and Bolivia were partially maintained by navy personnel.

The government also decreed a 120-sole ($9.23) [figures as received] per day pay increase for the Central Peruvian Mining Enterprise [CENTROMIN] and U.S. Southern Peru Copper Corporation workers. These workers, some 20,000 in all, were about to start a strike which would have affected the production of copper and other minerals, which represent the country's main source of foreign currency. The government also implicitly rejected a protest by industrialists against a decree ordering the rehiring of 78 workers who were dismissed last July. The decree is part of the strike settlement agreement.

DELEGATE TO UN RIGHTS PANEL MEETS WITH NEWSMEN

PY181257Y Montevideo Radio Carve Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Mar 78 PY

[Text] The Uruguayan position on human rights was understood and well received by the UN commission which studies the subject in Geneva. The only vote against our country was that of Cuba. Ambassador Carlos Yambruno, who headed the Uruguayan delegation to the meeting, said in an interview with Radio Carve: [begin recording] For Uruguay, it was only a study which is made of many other countries, based on collected information. Instructions received from our Foreign Ministry allowed us to tell the whole truth about the situation. We explained the real situation of our process to a commission made up of 32 states which did not know--and they have no reason to know--about aspects of our real situation. And we answered all their questions and have agreed to answer all of their future questions on subjects which may awaken interest, as long as the principle that Uruguay is a sovereign country is respected, and also that as being a sovereign nation, there are limits which cannot be violated. In this manner I can say that the meeting was highly satisfactory, and that the explanations given by the Uruguayan delegation were very well received. The decision adopted, therefore, was that of attaching value to the Uruguayan position to a point of almost using it as an example for establishing a permanent dialog. We discussed all Uruguayan problems, because we feel that that is the international goal and in keeping with the democratic vocation of the country, and that all must be carried out within a climate of cordiality.

Thus, except for some political aspects which are always present, the results were highly satisfactory. Of all the countries whose situations were studied, Uruguay underwent the most thorough examination and also received a more satisfactory answer from the community of nations, because of the sincerity and total explanation of our problems.

[Question] Dr Yambruno, was the Uruguayan position at the UN Assembly at any moment rejected by any country or some personality in particular?

[Answer] Well, yes. There are always arguments on these subjects, but how can we expect to have no objections with a Cuban delegation on the Human Rights Commission. We can also tell you, however, that Cuba cast the only negative vote. But in matters of human rights we should have no dialog with Cuba, because it is an absolutely unqualified country, and this is the general impression among the other delegations. There was no other negative vote but that of Cuba. So, this answers your question. We held a very open and frank dialog within that organization. Any delegation or person can make objections, but what is more important is to point out that we did not have a unanimous vote because of the Cuban vote, but Cuba is out of the question. It is also important to point out the clarifying aspect of the dialog, and that the United Nations understood our problem. Perhaps we will be able to continue our dialog because what was emphasized by most delegations is that every country be well disposed for dialog. [end recording]

GOVERNMENT REPORTS SUBVERSIVE RING BROKEN UP

PY181523Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1027 GMT 18 Mar 78 PY

[Text] Montevideo, 17 Mar--The combined police-military forces reported tonight that 29 persons have been detained for being members of the Unification Action Group [Grupo de Accion Unificadora--GAU], a former subversive movement in Uruguay.

When the GAU was outlawed in November 1973 it stopped its activities, but today's official communique announced the breaking up of its underground organization, consisting of an executive committee, regional committees and many subordinate groups.

The police report aided that one of the regional committees had its headquarters in Buenos Aires and maintained relations with the Argentine Montoneros with whom it coordinated armed actions which were to be carried out in Uruguay in the future.

The officials stated that the GAU was guilty of several bank robberies, arms thefts and attacks between 1971 and 1973, and also of the accidental explosion of a bomb in the hands of an engineering student, which caused government intervention in the university in 1973.

The report concludes by saying that the 29 detained persons have been put at the disposal of military justice.

BRIEFS

COST OF LIVING--Montevideo, 16 Mar--The General Directorate of Statistics and Census reported today that the cost of living increased by 2.72 percent in February 1978. During the first 2 months of 1978 the cost of living increased by 3.93 percent. During the same period in 1977 the increase was 11.45 percent. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1531 GMT 16 Mar 78 PY]

WAGE INCREASE APPROVED--The government has implemented a 7-percent wage increase for private workers. The government resolution also provides for a 10-percent wage increase for rural workers and establishes 420 new pesos as the minimum national salary, retroactive to 1 March 1978. [Montevideo Radio Carve Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Mar 78 PY]

PEREZ WILL PROMOTE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOG IN JAMAICA

PA231400Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0107 GMT 23 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 22 Mar (EFE)--Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez will try to promote the "North-South dialog" during a meeting of several heads of state to be held on 1 June in Jamaica. The meeting will be attended by Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau and several European heads of state. The announcement was made by President Perez during a news conference held in Valencia, located some 160 km east of Caracas. The president is in Valencia inaugurating several projects undertaken by his administration.

Andres Perez said that the preparations for this meeting have already been made with the direct participation of Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley, who is believed to be Venezuela's staunchest ally in its Third World policy. He also said that during the Jamaica talks, "we shall study the possibility of reviving the 'North-South dialog,' which is of great concern to us because we are aware that on its rests the future of Venezuela and other developing countries." According to the president, the meeting will be attended by the Jamaican prime minister and several European ministers whose names he did not reveal.

Regarding possible trips abroad prior to April 1978, the end of his term, he said that on 31 March he will go to Curacao, Netherlands Antilles, to sign a marine and submarine delimitation agreement with Minister-President Sylvius Rozendaal. But before leaving for Jamaica "I shall visit Guyana and Surinam at the invitation of the governments of these two neighboring countries," he added.

Regarding allegations by the U.S. magazine BUSINESS WEEK that Venezuela is going through economic difficulties and the magazine's predictions of possible import restrictions, monetary exchange controls and probable devaluations, President Perez said that "these are opinions he does not share." He also explained that the apparent crisis in the world oil market has brought forth a variety of opinions aimed at "bending" Venezuela's resolve to stay with the prices set by OPEC. They will not be able to do that, because OPEC is a strong, serious, united organization with a single goal. "Such maneuvers are bound to fail because the reserves accumulated by the industrialized nations for winter are dwindling and the international oil market has already started to come back to normal," he added. The chief of state emphasized that Venezuela has nothing to fear as regards its oil, "which does not mean we should not be watchful and ready to take whatever measures are most appropriate to confront the international trusts which manipulate the oil market." Andres Perez declared that his government has not considered any modifications in its monetary policy and that the parity of the bolivar will be maintained without changes with respect to the U.S. dollar.

FINANCE MINISTER OPTIMISTIC ABOUT 1978 FINANCES

PA232349Y Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 19 Mar 78 pp 2-4 PA

[Text] Caracas (INNAC)--Financial programs for this year will yield favorable balances despite the temporary imbalances in the main government revenues, according to statements made yesterday by Finance Minister Dr Luis Jose Silva Luongo, who reiterated the government's position that there will be no modification of the monetary rate of exchange as the nation's economic situation stabilizes, assuming economic expansion continues on solid foundations, free of great inflationary pressures.

According to the ministry's latest analysis, the minister said in referring to the prospects concerning oil revenues and other ordinary domestic revenues (after having proceeded to adjust the budget to 2.017 million bolivars), there is absolute confidence that the government's financial initiative will yield favorable balances at the close of 1978.

The latest figures for oil revenues reveal the sustained upward trend of the Venezuelan economy in the last few years.

In view of that, the minister added, we are confident that even the cost of living will be reduced and, likewise, we hope the balance of payments may show results in close relation to our economic process, which has entered a phase of orderly and healthy growth.

Finally, the finance minister said that "the national government definitely maintains a firm policy not to modify the bolivar's exchange rate. There is not the slightest possibility of this or for the establishment of any measures that will interfere with the complete liquidity existing in the country's free monetary convertibility."

Asked if there were plans to expand the tax reforms, the minister replied that only those projects already being discussed by Congress are contemplated.

In reply to a question on whether the airport tourist tax will be increased, he said this is only another of the many rumors being spread in the country and added that he can responsibly state that such an increase has not been considered and that anything said in this respect is mere unfounded speculation.

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT ON CAF HEADQUARTERS--Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi and the executive president of the Andean Development Corporation [CAF] have signed an agreement regulating the operation of CAF headquarters in Caracas. It establishes the immunities and privileges CAF is granted as an international organization. [Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 14 Mar 78 PA]

ALUMINUM PRODUCTION--Caracas, 13 Mar (VENPRES)--The second stage of VENALUM's expansion project will be completed in April, thus increasing production capacity by 70,000 metric tons a year for a total of 140,000 metric tons. The second and third stages, planned for the next few years, will increase production capacity to 280,000 metric tons. [Caracas Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 1215 GMT 15 Mar 78 PA]

AGREEMENT WITH MEXICO--Venezuela and Mexico's social security institutions signed an agreement today establishing an exchange of professionals, experts, researchers and technicians. The agreement was signed by the Venezuelan Social Security Institute president and Mexico's ambassador to Caracas. [Caracas Radio Continente Network Spanish 2050 GMT 15 Mar 78 PA]

NEWS MAGAZINE--The Venezuelan Embassy in Colombia has published the first issue of a news magazine, Ambassador Guido Groscoors reported. He added that the purpose of the magazine is to help strengthen integration between Colombia and Venezuela. He told newsmen in Bogota that the magazine is called VENEZUELA HOY. [Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 17 Mar 78 PA]

FEP ISSUES COMMUNIQUE REJECTING SENATE'S TREATY CHANGES

PA231755Y Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 23 Mar 78 p 3-B PA

[Communique issued by the Federation of Panamanian Students at special session held at the University of Panama on 21 March 1978]

[Text] "FOR ORGANIZED VIGILANCE BY THE PEOPLE TO DEFEND THE DIGNITY OF THE FATHERLAND"

1. Through the information media, the country has received with surprise the postponement until 17 April of the opening of classes for elementary and high schools and subsequently for the university. The same surprise was felt by the national leadership of the Federation of Panamanian Students (FEP), which was never consulted about the measure. The published report states that there was a request from the Board of Directors of the National Federation of Parents Associations employing the "argument" that Holy Week was at hand and that there are material problems involved in the opening of classes.

2. However, this postponement occurs in the context of the discussions of the Torrijos-Carter treaties, which are currently the subject of debate by the U.S. Senate. Unofficially, it is being maintained that the measure was designed to forestall possible provocations on the part of antipatriotic forces within the student movement. Although we concede that such a possibility exists, such a position reflects a great lack of confidence in and an underestimation of the maturity of the Panamanian student movement and of the masses in general.

3. For this reason, the FEP, based on its historic principles and on its revolutionary authority derived from the sacrifices of its militants and its martyrs, in response to the DeConcini reservation and the possible amendments that may be made to the Torrijos-Carter treaty, declares its firmest and most militant support for the position based on principles and national dignity that was outlined by Commander Torrijos in his letter to Carter on 15 March: "Panama will consider unacceptable any reservation which sullies the national dignity, which distorts or changes the objectives of the treaty or which seeks to prevent the exercise of sovereignty by Panama over all its territory, the turnover of the canal and the military withdrawal on 31 December 1999."

4. It is obvious that the imperialists, taking advantage of the failings of the process and depending on their unquestioning supporters in Panama, seek by means of the amendments and reservations to halt and destroy the process of national liberation which is being led by the military. Consequently, although it is true that the FEP realizes that the popular movement and Panamanian patriots in particular must exercise great patience, it is no less true that this calm should not be interpreted as passivity or as a sign of weakness or desperation. In this lies the hope of the enemy who wishes to isolate Commander Torrijos from his people and promote wavering within the forces committed to the struggle for national liberation, as well as to exclude the masses, its only guarantors, from this patriotic struggle.

5. Despite all the pressure, blackmail, provocations and attempts to anesthetize the patriotic conscience of our people, the popular movement has received with indignation and without cowardice the "reservations" approved by the U.S. Senate, which have only caused concern among those who trusted in the kindness of the imperialists, those who placed their own interests above the sacred interests of the fatherland and those who never believed that we were involved in a real struggle for national liberation and who did not realize that if there is no ratification, our people, fearing nothing, will take the path imposed by the circumstances in order to achieve their full independence--even taking up arms if necessary.

6. Therefore, we oppose the method used to decide on the postponement of classes because it introduces mistrust and suspicion about the fate of the treaties.

7. In addition, we demand the publication, as soon as possible, of the amendments and reservations attached to the neutrality pact by the U.S. Senate and [an explanation of] the extent of these amendments and reservations.

8. Moreover, in order that our people not be left out of this patriotic struggle, we demand the inclusion of all the active forces of the country into the process of determining and preparing the alternative actions to be taken as a result of the demands of the U.S. imperialists.

ON OUR FEET OR DEAD, BUT NEVER ON OUR KNEES

THE FEP IS ON THE MARCH; NOTHING AND NO ONE CAN STOP IT

[signed] Federal Executive Council of the FEP

CLAIMS OF ELECTION ABUSES CONTINUE UNDER NONPARTY SYSTEM

PA231919Y Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 23 Mar 78 p 6-A PA

["Macheteando" column by Mario Augusto Rodriguez: "Electoral Denunciations"]

[Text] The thing that has attracted my main attention amid the hustle and bustle resulting from electoral ambitions is the vast number of complaints, protests and denunciations connected with the violation of the rules regulating the process for choosing candidates for corregimiento representatives. Those of us who have had experience with party politics know that that was one of the characteristics of prerevolutionary electoral processes: the large number of denunciations that reached the communications media and the authorities in connection with the various parties' hopefuls or candidates and their use of illegal or immoral methods or means. But now we are discovering that the problem cannot be attributed exclusively to the party system: The "parties," which were the "intermediaries" between the popular will and the electoral processes, are not operating now. Nominations are now made directly. But today, just as yesterday, numerous denunciations, complaints and protests are being made against the use of official resources and the pressure exerted through power, money, threats, bribery, false promises, influence and other immoral methods in order to influence or coerce voters. As in the past, among the candidates seeking reelection the ones holding official positions are the ones most often denounced.

For example, in several radio and television programs and in the newspapers I have heard and seen hopefuls from the Chorrillo neighborhood denounce the present representative of that sector, who is apparently seeking reelection. The reports even mention his name: Mr Elias Castillo, who, I am told, has been president of the distinguished Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives. Well, that honorable gentleman has been accused of using a state-owned bus to transport citizens enlisted as workers in General Torrijos' emergency plan so they would sign as supporters of his reelection. According to those making the denunciation, at the time the complaint was made the honorable representative seeking reelection said that they too could use the state-owned bus for the same purposes. In other words, the feels it is perfectly legitimate to use the state's resources to promote electoral campaigns. And he is one of the signers of the 1972 political constitution.

I have mentioned this case merely as an example. In fact, a journalist comes across dozens of similar denunciations when out on the street or when traveling through the interior. Most denunciations are against those representatives seeking reelection. Because they head the community board, they are the ones who obtained appointments for the corregidores, the ones who decided on the designation of the mayors and the ones who for the past 6 years have maintained relations with the National Guard officers, the ministers and vice ministers and the managers of the autonomous agencies. In other words, they are the lords and masters of all resources and media and can use them either overtly or covertly to compete advantageously against the new nominees, who must fight using only their own resources. In other words, this is a fight between a tiger and a tethered donkey. And if this is noticeable in the capital city, where people are less impressionable, the reader may well imagine what must be happening in the minute and distant corregimientos of the interior where the mayor and the corregidor are veritable feudal lords, owners of all prestige, life and goods, who control each of the inhabitants in every corregimiento and village.

I think that if a real desire exists for the election of corregimiento representatives to be a democratic, free, dignified and honest process, the first step should have been the separation of the distinguished representatives nominated for reelection. First, because it is obvious that anyone who participates in the designation of mayors and corregidores, who exercise authority and control, also exercises such power. Second, because the mere fact that a person holds the post of representative creates a condition of advantage and privilege in favor of those seeking reelection, and advantages and privileges are anti-democratic.

COSTA RICA's ODUBER DEPARTS AFTER 43-HOUR VISIT

PA240223Y Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Costa Rican President Daniel Oduber, who will surrender his post to President-elect Rodrigo Carazo, has made a 43-hour official visit to Panama.

While in our country, Oduber held private meetings with Panamanian Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos and with members of the Panamanian Government team.

As everybody knows, Oduber has visited Panama on various occasions and has been a strong defender of the Panamanian cause.

Oduber departed at 2000 this morning in the Panamanian chief of government's special plane. President Oduber took advantage of his visit to make some purchases in the Panamanian free zone.

He was seen off at the airport by Jose Watson, the Foreign Ministry's chief of protocol.

BELIZE

REPORTER SEES NEW OPPORTUNITY IN GUATEMALAN PRESIDENT-ELECT

FL232020Y Belize City REPORTER in English 19 Mar 78 p 2 FL

[Editorial]

[Text] Elections in Guatemala have produced a winner in the person of 46-year-old General Romeo Lucas Mendez, one of the youngest men to be elected to the presidency.

Despite the charges of election fraud from the Movimiento de Liberacion Nacional, there seems to be a broad consensus that General Lucas is the nation's choice for president. Even if there were fraud--and there is evidence of a certain amount on both sides--General Lucas received more genuine popular votes than did Colonel Peralta Azudia, his nearest rival. The new Guatemalan Congress has recognized this, and has accordingly confirmed General Lucas as president-elect.

General Lucas has been described as a moderate who has a feeling for Guatemala's working men and women. He speaks Kekchi, the language of Guatemala's poor, with fluency and Maya Mopan as well. His election campaign, with its broad appeal to women and workers, seems to hold out the promise of some improvement for Guatemala's four million milperos. He himself has promised a new era of peace and tranquility and progress.

Good for Guatemala! But how about Belize? What does the new presidency hold in store for the people of Belize, whose country Guatemala is claiming?

Every president of Guatemala is obliged to take an oath of allegiance to uphold the constitution. This is the same constitution which says that Belize is part of Guatemalan territory. In the past presidents have used this article of the constitution for pressing their claim against Belize.

There is no good reason for expecting that things will be different this time. Guatemala will retain her territorial claim, and though this may continue to shrink in size, it is not likely to disappear.

But the presence of General Lucas in the Palacio Presidencial does provide the opportunity for a fresh start, for a more reasoned approach to the century-old problem, for new perspectives and perhaps for limited goals.

GUATEMALA

APPEALS COURT ACCEPTS ELECTION ANNULMENT WRIT

PA232247Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1902 GMT 23 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 23 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The court of appeals has accepted "in all its parts" the special writ of appeal against the last elections filed by Mario Sandoval Alarcon, top leader of the anticommunist movement in Guatemala and current vice president of the country.

Basically, the writ calls for the annulment of the general and presidential elections of last 5 March "in consideration of the violations of the electoral law and because the elections contained flaws which made them illegal."

The Guatemalan Congress, which in a second-round election chose centrist candidate Gen Romeo Lucas Garcia as president, now has 2 days in which to study the ballots, the records and, in general, all the documents of the recent elections.

Sources of the National Liberation Movement, which is led by Sandoval Alarcon and which had Col Enrique Peralta Azurdia as its candidate, accused Congress President Rafael Castillo Valdez of having burned part of the electoral documents in order to cover up the alleged fraud. Now, with the court of appeals' order to review the voting material, the charges will be investigated.

If the fraud charged by the anticommunists is proved, by law current President Gen Kjell Eugenio Laugerud Garcia must call for new presidential and vice presidential elections within the next 60 days.

HONDURAS

SULA TIEMPO COLUMNIST SCORES 'BLOODSTAINED' ARMY

PA211840Y San Peoro SULA TIEMPO in Spanish 13 Mar 78 p 6 PA

[Article by Cirilo Nelson: "The Army With Bloodstained Hands"]

[Excerpts] The bloody incidents which have plunged the nation into mourning in the past few days have undermined the image of a government respectful of civil rights which the military in power have tried to give the Honduran people.

Many are the victims who have been violently sacrificed by an armed institution that swears on its honor to respect the laws of the republic and to bring about respect for these laws.

Peasants have been massacred in their centers of operations by members of the army and their cohorts. There are prisoners to whom a prison warden applies the notorious attempted escape law. Businessmen are insulted, robbed, summarily executed and thrown into the river by secret police agents. And, most barbarous of all, dozens of persons have been executed with Nazi coldness for the mere crime of trying to show the central government the hunger felt in the Honduran countryside.

The military branch of the nation has become a nest of gangsters. Irrational domination is seen in a group which should see to it that its image is not stained with the slightest suspicion of abuse of civilians.

But, what do we have? Units which refuse to hand over suspects to the courts, lending a deaf ear to court orders. Others seize a mayor's automobile on the pretext that it is the army which commands in the country. We have a garrison chief who tells his civilian cohorts not to worry because, if their misdeeds become known, he will assume responsibility for everything and nothing will happen to him because he is a military man.

Everywhere in the world abuses are committed by armed, uniformed men, but those which happen in Honduras are grave and exasperating, in addition to being unpunished.

The military with clean hands, of pure heart, of genuine military vocation should undertake without delay a campaign to clean up the Honduran Army's image, which is blood-stained because of the execrable actions committed by some of its members.

NICARAGUA

REBEL PRIEST HINTS CIA INVOLVED IN CHAMORRO MURDER

PA211950Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1917 GMT 21 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Panama City, 21 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Nicaraguan priest and poet Ernesto Cardenal said here in Panama that when Pedros Joaquin Chamorro was murdered he was preparing to join the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN).

After saying that the Sandinists have definite proof of Chamorro's intention to join the FSLN, the priest, who is a cousin of the murdered newsman, said that a date had been set for Chamorro to meet with FSLN members in Mexico City to reach an agreement on his joining. It is highly indicative that a few days before that date he should have been murdered, said the exiled priest, who introduced himself to the press as a "representative of the FSLN "

Cardenal spoke to the press of the possibility that the CIA was connected with the Chamorro murder but added that he had no definite proof. He accused the Bresident of the United States of helping to cover up the Chamorro murder case. "If Somoza knows who murdered him, Carter does too," he said.

He admitted the "execution" of Gen Reinaldo Perez Vega by the FSLN "was a hard blow for the Somozas," adding that "General Perez Vega was the chief CIA agent in Nicaragua."

BRIEFS

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH MEXICO--Arsenio Farrel Cubillas, president of the Permanent Inter-American Social Security Committee and director of the Mexican Social Security Institute, has ratified the cooperation agreement signed by the Nicaraguan and Mexican social security institutes in Managua on 10 February. The agreement establishes the exchange of experts, technicians and researchers in various social security fields, the organization of training courses, the granting of sholarships and the exchange of technical and scientific material. [Managua NOVEDADES in Spanish 11 Mar 78 p 30 PA]

MILIAN CASTRO VISITS SANTIAGO DE CUBA PROVINCE

FL232005Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1913 GMT 23 Mar 78 FL

[Text] PCC Politburo member Arnaldo Milian Castro has toured coffee plantations and vegetable farm projects of the municipality of Segundo Frente, Santiago de Cuba Province. He was accompanied by Jose Ramon Balaguer, member of the PCC Central Committee and first secretary of the party in that province, and Francisco Gonzalez and Manuel Rojas, first and second secretaries respectively of the party in the municipality of Segundo Frente.

Milian was briefed extensively on the future development of the municipality's coffee plantations in coming years and actions to be taken in this connection. During his stay in the municipality, the PCC politburo member paid visits to the districts of (Mayequal) and Concepcion and Soledad's coffee plant in Mayari Arriba.

FOREIGN MINISTER MALMIERCA BEGINS TALKS IN IRAQ

For reportage on the 4-day visit to Iraq by Foreign Minister Isidoro Octavio Malmierca, see the Iraq section of the 23 March Middle East & North Africa DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

PEREZ HERRERO RECEIVES SOVIET OFFICIAL

FL232310Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2218 GMT 23 Mar 78 FL

[Text] PCC Central Committee Secretariat member Antonio Perez Herrero today received Gennadiy Sergeyevich Strizhov, deputy chief of the CPSU science and educational institutions department. During the talks the two sides fraternally discussed the close cooperation between the two countries.

RSFSR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS DEPUTY CHAIRMAN ARRIVES

FL240210Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Mar 78 FL

[Text] Lidiya Lykova, deputy chairman of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR], arrived in our country this morning. She is also chairman of the commission for women's labor affairs and living conditions, protection of children and maternity attached to the USSR Supreme Soviet. At Jose Marti International Airport in Rancho Boyeros, Lykova was received by Vilma Espin, member of the PCC Central Committee and Council of State and president of the Federation of Cuban Women [FMC], and USSR Ambassador to Cuba Nikita Tolubeyev.

Lidiya Lykova is visiting Cuba at the invitation of the FMC National Directorate. Shortly after her arrival, she was received at the FMC headquarters where experiences on women's work in the So iet Union and Cuba were exchanged by the two sides.

PARTY MISSION ATTENDING SRI LANKA CP CONGRESS

FL202031Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2019 GMT 20 Mar 78 FL

[Text] A PCC delegation headed by Central Committee member Julio Garcia Olivera arrived in Colombo today invited to participate in the 10th Congress of the Sri Lanka Communist Party. The delegation, which includes PCC Central Committee section chief Orestes Quintana, was received by Pieter Keuneman, secretary general of the Sri Lanka Communist Party and (Sara Mutetuwegan), member of the Politburo and president of that country's youth league.

AALAPSO CALLS FOR SOLIDARITY WITH ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION

FL240100Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Mar 78 FL

[Text] The Executive Secretariat of the Afro-Asian-Latin American Peoples Solidarity Organization [AALAPSO] has issued an appeal to the world's revolutionary and progressive forces urging them to offer their firmest support for and solidarity with the Ethiopian revolution. The appeal, which is published in today's edition of the daily GRANMA, the official organ of the PCC Central Committee, points out that the year 1974 marked the end of 3 long centuries of feudal slavery and exploitation in Ethiopia when Haile Selassie's archaic monarchical government was overthrown and a new era, that of the Ethiopian revolution, began. Since then, 30 million inhabitants for the first time have had the possibility of choosing the path for true national liberation and carrying out the development of the country based on a new socioeconomic system. However, there are internal and foreign reactionary forces which are trying to undermine the revolutionary unity and gains of the policy being followed by Mengistu Haile Mariam, the document points out. It adds that this is clearly demonstrated by the instigation unleashed from abroad urging Somalia to launch an invasion against Ethiopia with the support of NATO warmongering forces.

Imperialism ignited in the receptive mind of the Somali Government the dream of greater Somalia, leading it to the invasion of the Ethiopian territory of Ogaden and making it deaf and blind to the principles of the OAU Charter of May 1973, which stipulates respect for the territorial integrity of all its members and the inviolability of the borders inherited from the period of colonization, as one of the appeal's paragraph states. It then stresses that the Ethiopian people have given irrefutable demonstrations of their intransigent position before the enemy and of their courage which has led them to recent victories with the support of the world's anti-imperialist and socialist forces, especially those of Cuba and the Soviet Union.

In another part the appeal points out that the NATO countries, and especially North American imperialism, have been defeated in the imperialist invasion in the so-called Horn of Africa, where they attempted to create a bloc of reactionary forces in all those countries of North Africa having access to the Red Sea. Today Ethiopia has become a bulwark of the African revolution in that area, as is the case of Angola in southern Africa. AALAPSO calls on all revolutionary and progressive forces in the world, democratic political parties and governments to offer their firmest support and solidarity to the Ethiopian revolution at this time of great enthusiasm for the victory attained but of hard and difficult task in defense of the political program undertaken by its government and people, the appeal concludes.

GRANMA PUBLISHES CUBAN-ETHIOPIAN COMMUNIQUE

FL241218Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 24 Mar 78 FL

[Text] A Cuban-Ethiopian joint communique, signed at the end of the visit by our country's Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca to that fraternal nation, is published by GRANMA, PCC Central Committee organ. The document states that in talks between the foreign ministers of the two countries, frank and detailed viewpoints were exchanged on bilateral relations and international issues. Both parties agreed that the Cuban foreign minister's visit to Ethiopia, from 17 to 21 March, is of particular importance to increasingly strengthen the revolutionary solidarity between the two countries' peoples and governments. Two agreements were signed during the visit, one cultural and the other on cooperation between the Cuban and Ethiopian foreign ministries.

ARMANDO HART SENDS MESSAGE TO MOVIE INDUSTRY WORKERS

FL241249Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 24 Mar 78 FL

[Text] On the occasion of the 19th anniversary of the creation of the Cuban movie industry, PCC Politburo member Armando Hart Davalos, culture minister, has sent a congratulatory message to the workers in this sector. The message states that in these 19 years Cuban movies have been able to reconcile quality with popularity, have a permanent role in internationalist activities, and have become a force promoting the best in Latin American movies.

After stating that during these years Cuban movies have received numerous and very significant distinctions and international prizes, Hart states in the message that this has been possible because of the systematic recognition given by our people. Hart's congratulatory message states that the successes of Cuban movies are the successes of our revolutionary people.

RODRIGUEZ LLOMPART, PHILIPPINE OFFICIAL HOLD TALKS

FL232305Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2218 GMT 23 Mar 78 FL

[Text] Hector Rodriguez Llompart, minister-chairman of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, has received Nyle C. Brady, director general of the Philippine International Institute for Rice Research. During the meeting, which was conducted in an atmosphere of mutual respect, the possibilities of cooperation in the field of rice research between Cuba and the Philippines were examined.

SPORTS COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH ALGERIA

FL232240Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2202 GMT 23 Mar 78 FL

[Excerpt] A cooperation agreement has been signed in Havana by the Algerian Youth and Sports Ministry and the National Institute of Sports, Physical Education and Recreation [INDER]. The ceremony was attended by Belarmino Castilla Mas, member of the PCC Central Committee and vice president of the Council of Ministers. Signing for the Algerian side was Youth and Sports Minister Jamal Houhou and for the Cuban side INDER President Jorge Garcia Bango.

BRIEFS

BULGARIAN HEALTH DELEGATION--(Emil Efenov), Bulgarian deputy minister of health and epidemiology, who is in our country in answer to an invitation made by the Public Health Ministry [MINSAP], is visiting Santiago de Cuba at the head of a delegation. The Bulgarian delegation will exchange experiences with MINSAP officials in Santiago de Cuba on preventive services and other important aspects in the field of medicine. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1435 GMT 23 Mar 78 FL]

SOCIALIST DIPLOMATS VISIT MATANZAS--A delegation of diplomats from socialist embassies has visited the Victoria de Giron citrus enterprise of Matanzas. Arle Manasov, minister-counselor of the USSR Embassy in Cuba, headed the delegation of counselors and first secretaries in socialist countries' diplomatic missions. The diplomats were received by Juan Manuel Torres, member of Matanzas party provincial committee, and Engineer Juan Sobrera, director of the enterprise. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Mar 78 FL]

DETAILS OF SOARES-MANLEY TALKS REPORTED

FL231505Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 21 Mar 78 pp 1, 11 FL

[Text] The 14-member delegation of the Socialist International led by Prime Minister Mario Soares of Portugal yesterday [held] three hours of official discussions with Prime Minister Manley and other representatives of the government.

The talks, which took place at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, covered a wide range of international issues including the liberation struggle in southern Africa and the urgent need to reform the world economic system as well as the political situation in Europe and the Caribbean.

At the outset of the talks, Prime Minister Manley said he was pleased that the Socialist International was changing its world views from an essentially European concern. The new outlook, he said, showed that the Socialist International was now addressing the problems of the dispossessed and poor countries of the world.

Prime Minister Soares said that the visit of his delegation to several countries in the region was to get first hand information about the political process and to establish contact with parties that are members or associates of the Socialist International. The governing People's National Party is a member of the international.

The Socialist International is an international organization consisting of socialist, social democratic and labour parties all over the world. It has 38 full member parties and 63 member or affiliate member organizations in all. Mr. Soares is one of the vice-presidents of the organization.

Mr Soares said the contacts in the region would help the Socialist International to re-examine its role in the world today.

The Portuguese leader said he supported Mr. Manley's "non-negotiable" commitment to the liberation struggle in southern Africa and the new international economic order.

The general secretary of the Socialist International, Mr. Bernt Carlsson, said the International recently decided to give "high priority" to the situation in southern Africa. It also decided that its support should be specifically directed to the Patriotic Front in the case of Zimbabwe, SWAPO--the South West African People's Organization--in Namibia and the African National Council in the case of South Africa itself.

On the economic side of the liberation coin, he said that the Socialist International had decided to devote its next bureau meeting to be held in Senegal in May to the need to change economic relations between the developing countries and the developed countries.

Prime Minister Soares also analysed the political situation in Portugal since the end of the fascist regime a few years ago. And Mr. Manley analysed recent political and economic situations in the Caribbean.

The Jamaica delegation in the talks included Foreign Minister P.J. Patterson, Housing Minister Anthony Spaulding, Labour Minister William Isaacs, Public Utilities Minister Horace Clarke, National Security Minister Dudley Thompson, Justice Minister Carl Rattray, PNP General Secretary Ralph Brown, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Keble Munn and Jack Stephenson, minister of state for tourism.

After the discussions, the prime minister and Mrs. Manley hosted a luncheon in honour of Prime Minister Soares and the delegation.

Later in the afternoon, the delegation held discussions with representatives of the PNP executive headed by the deputy chairman, Mr. A.G.R. Byfield.

HUNGARY INCREASES LINE OF CREDIT TO $22 MILLION

FL231550Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 20 Mar 78 p 1 FL

[Text] The National Bank of Hungary has agreed to increase the $8-million line of credit offered to Jamaica earlier this year to $22 million, Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mr. Derrick Heaven has told the GLEANER.

He said that this $22 million does not include assistance offered by the Hungarian Government under three agreements signed with a number of Hungarian state trading corporations for commodities, including drugs and medical equipment.

The three state trading corporations which signed the commodity agreements with Jamaica earlier this year are MEDINPEX, MEDICORE and HUNGARATEX.

Mr. Heaven said in an interview with the GLEANER that of the $22 million line of credit, $14 million has been earmarked for the purchase of capital goods and $8 million for consumer goods.

Feasibility Studies

Mr. Heaven said the increased offer of the line of credit would mean that instead of the $8 million originally offered, through which Mamaica would have been able to purchase $4 million of capital goods and $4 million of consumer goods, Jamaica could now purchase $14 million of capital goods and $8 million of consumer goods.

He said the line of credit offered by the bank would be used to purchase goods and equipment for projects to be identified by local agencies concerned with development. Feasibility studies were now being carried out.

Speaking about the three state trading corporations, Mr. Heaven said that MEDINPEX had extended a line of credit of $3 million to the Jamaica State Trading Corporation.

MEDICORE was giving a line of credit of $10 million for the purchase of medical equipment for local hospitals and HUNGARATEX had agreed to extend a line of credit of $1 million to this country for the purchase of textile goods.

The parliamentary secretary said that while these offers by the state trading corporation in Hungary had been made before the recent visit of Prime Minister Michael Manley and members of his team to that country, details were worked out and the transactions "firmed up" during that visit.

He said that in its purchases of drugs from Hungary to date, Jamaica had saved 32 per cent on what it paid for the same items from its traditional suppliers.

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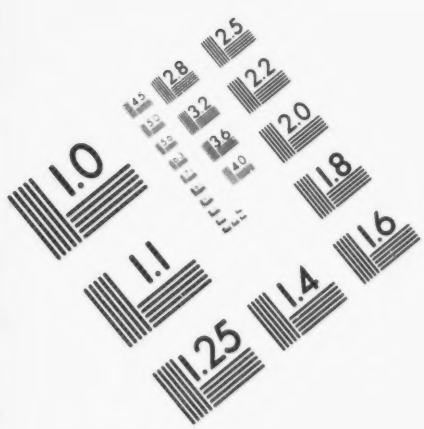

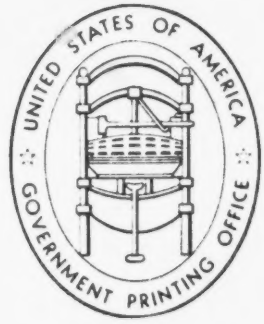

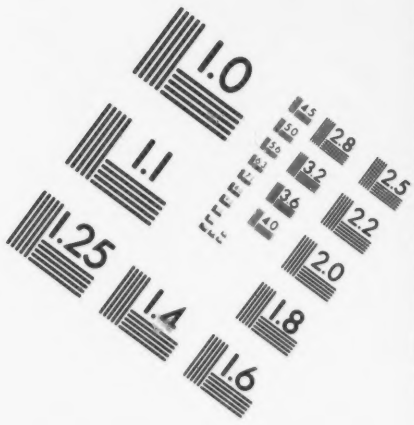

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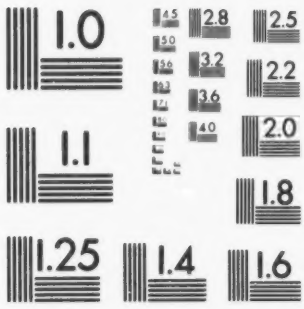

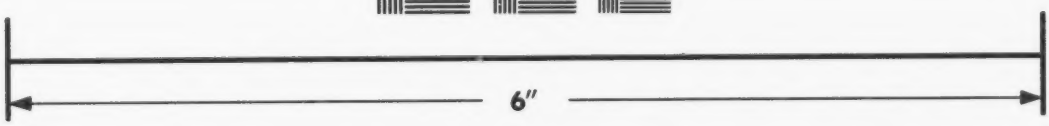

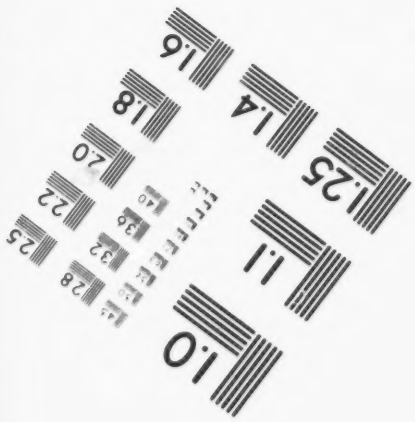

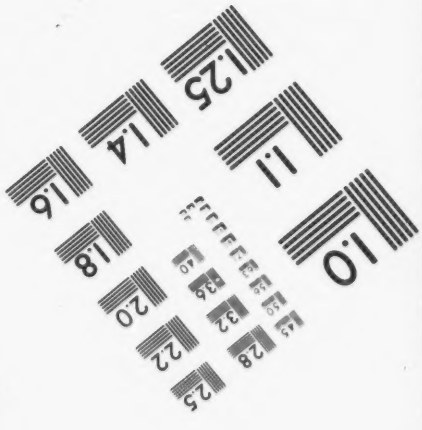

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